

# The Avalanche

O. PALMER, Publisher.  
GRATINGS, - - - MONTGOMERY.

## THIEF IS RUN DOWN.

### BOLD ATTEMPT AT ROBBERY IN PITTSBURG.

Quickness and Agility of an Errand Boy Cause the Capture of the Thief—Dun & Co.'s Favorable Report on Trade Conditions.

A bold attempt at diamond robbery was made at Pittsburgh, but was frustrated by the prompt action of a boy and the police. Just before closing time three men entered the jewelry store of A. E. Siedle. While two of the men engaged the clerk and porter in conversation the third opened a showcase and transferred thirty diamonds, valued at about \$6,000, from the case to a pocket upon he had suspended about his waist. The errand boy employed at the store gave the alarm and followed the man in his flight. The robber jumped on a trolley car, but the conductor put him off. Detective McGovern arrested him after a fierce struggle, in which the prisoner tried to shoot his captor. All of the diamonds except one were recovered. The man gave his name as Jack Robinson of Cincinnati, but the police think he is from New York.

### MONEY ANXIETIES FADE.

#### Better Feeling in Financial Circles—Wool Sales Pass All Records.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says: "Money anxieties have faded with sales of bonds to the treasury under the recent offer, the fall sterling exchange in spite of a dearer money abroad and easier here, and the receipt of about \$750,000 net from the interior during the week. There is no trouble in the commercial money market, as there has been none, and loans on securities have ruled at easier rates. The iron industry shows no yielding in material, but a little advance in Bessemer pig at Pittsburgh, with large inquiries for next year. Sales of wool pass all records, having been at the three chief markets \$1,694,203 pounds in three weeks of November; whereas October sales in five weeks were but 68,314,989 pounds, and in only one other full month have sales ever reached 60,000,000 pounds. The trading is largely between dealers and leaves no indication of consumption. Failures for the week have been 191 in the United States, against 188 last year, and 22 in Canada, against 21 last year."

### BLOW AT EAST DIVORCE.

#### Residence in North Dakota Must Be Permanent to Be Legal.

The State Supreme Court decision handed down at Bismarck, N. D., in Gram versus Graham strikes another hard blow at the divorce industry. It holds that residence in the State must be bona fide and characterized by the intention to stay to give the plaintiff the benefit of the State law. Those who visit the State for the express purpose of securing divorce do not acquire residence. While the last Legislature amended the period of residence requisite from ninety days to one year, this decision will affect the status of many divorces granted by lower courts prior to the going into effect of the new law.

### Uses Knife for Pneumonia.

Dr. H. L. Grosh, of the Toledo, Ohio, city physician, has performed the first successful operation for pneumonia in the United States, if not in the world. The patient is Frank Turley. Dr. Grosh pronounced his patient out of the hospital after three successive surgical operations, each time abscesses being removed from the lungs. Specialists had pronounced the case hopeless.

### Big Store Burn in Detroit.

The building occupied by A. Krolick & Co., commission merchants, at 35 and 37 Woodbridge street, and the wholesale dry goods establishment of Strong, Lee & Co., back of it, at 133 Jefferson avenue, Detroit, were destroyed by fire. The total loss is estimated at \$300,000 on stocks and \$30,000 on buildings.

### Big Fire in Navy Yard.

The ship-fitters' shop at Charlestown navy yard, Boston, was destroyed by fire, and the machinery contained in it is estimated to have been damaged to the extent of \$25,000 to \$50,000. The machinery was valued at \$300,000. How the fire started could not be determined.

### Yields to the Navy.

Secretary of the Navy, Lounsbury, has received a cablegram from Admiral Watson informing him that the entire province of Zamboanga, island of Mindanao, had surrendered unconditionally to Commander Very of the Castine.

### Blown to Pieces by Dynamite.

The house of Scott McAfee, near Fountain Park, Ohio, was wrecked. McAfee was killed and Miss Clara Ropp fatally injured by an explosion of dynamite. McAfee had placed a stick of dynamite under the kitchen stove to dry.

### New War Ship Is Swift.

Against tide, wind and a heavy head sea for at least half her course the new battleship Kentucky made record of 16.577 knots an hour on her official speed trial over the Government course from Cape Ann to Boone Island.

### Mother and Children Strain.

The horribly mutilated bodies of a Mrs. Hummel and her three children were found at their home on a small farm about a mile from Montgomery, Pa.

### Warehouse Destroyed by Fire.

The warehouse of Finner Brothers' Hardware Company at Little Rock, Ark., was destroyed by fire. The loss is \$175,000, insurance \$125,000.

### Newspaper Office Wrecked.

Unknown parties entered the office of the Monroe, Neb., Mirror during the night, destroyed the presses and dumped the type and other material into a creek. The act is supposed to be the outgrowth of a bitter town fight. The paper is the State organ of the Liberty party.

### Miners' Wives Fight Deputies.

The rioting of the wives and other female relatives of the striking miners at Nanticoke, Pa., was resumed and resulted in the arrest of one woman for throwing pepper in the eyes of a deputy.

### New Move by Union Pacific.

President H. G. Bart of the Union Pacific system intimates that great improvements will be made in the trackage system during the coming year, one of the most radical changes being the construction of another track paralleling the present line west of Omaha.

### Bodies to Be Returned.

At the expense of the government of China, the bodies of 65 Chinese buried in the cemeteries of Chicago will be returned and shipped to China to be buried in sacred soil. According to Chinese religion, all who are buried in foreign lands are doomed to eternal torment.

## MURDER REVEALED BY ILLNESS.

### Cause Disclosed Years Ago in Ohio Is Brought to Light.

Frederick Klinder and his son Henry, farmers near Napoleon, Ohio, were arrested charged with the murder of Mrs. Frederick Klinder in 1904. At the time the woman's body was found in the garden near her home with her throat cut and a knife wound near her heart which had caused her death was found tightly clasped in her fingers. The woman was Frederick Klinder's second wife. His son was by his first marriage. Two months ago Henry Klinder, while dangerously ill, confessed that himself and father had committed the murder, which was unprovoked. Frederick Klinder told his wife with a club and the son cut her throat. Then they changed their clothing and attended a party. The confession was a profound secret until Henry Klinder recovered. Himself and father are charged with first degree murder.

## FORTUNE FOR A FARMER.

### Wisconsin Man Informed that Confiscated Estate Has Been Restored.

A Chippewa Falls (Wis.) special says: "Frank Steinmetz, a young farmer who resides in the town of Tilden, received a letter from Paris informing him that he is a millionaire twice over. Steinmetz's grandfather was a wealthy real estate man, and during the Franco-Prussian war, and during that conflict all his property was seized, and later confiscated by the French government. Ten years ago a suit was commenced in the French courts for the recovery of the property, and not until last week was a favorable decision reached. The property is valued at about 18,000,000 francs, will be divided between Steinmetz and two brothers, who reside in Germany."

## WOULD BRAND FEMALE SEALS.

### Alaska's Government Suggests a Plan to Prevent Extinction.

Gov. Brady of Alaska, in his annual report, pleads for statehood, government establishment and operation of cable and telegraph lines and persistent branding of fur seals and cessation of killing them for at least ten years. In an appropriation of \$110,000 is asked for a penitentiary and suitable public buildings at Sitka. The Governor says that to preserve the fur seals the United States should own a property right in the seals and brand the letters "U. S." four inches long on the back of every female seal, thus branding them for furriers' use, this branding to be done by a force of experts to be sent out by the Government equipped with latest electrical appliances.

## Miner Killed by Dynamite.

By the premature explosion of a dynamite cartridge in the Bristol mine at Iron Mountain, Mich., William Holm was blown to fragments, August Nygren was so badly injured that his recovery is not expected and Charles Kellen received serious injuries, but will recover. A blast had been fired, but one of the holes did not explode and the others exploded. The men were investigating the cause.

## Tragedy Ends Two Lives.

Frank and George Bailey, prominent business men of Stockbridge, Mich., were killed in the explosion of a bicycle and jewelry store, both shot through the head. George was dead and Frank was dying. It is thought that Frank, who had been under a doctor's care for several days with a mental trouble, shot his brother and then himself.

## Another B. & O. Wreck.

The second section of Baltimore and Ohio passenger train No. 9, west-bound, known as the Oyster train, crashed into the first section in South Cumberland, Md., and was badly wrecked. Engineer L. E. Kinde of Baltimore was seriously injured and his fireman, Lewis Massey of Baltimore, was terribly scalded and died in hospital.

## Wisconsin Bank Is Robbed.

The bank of Milton, Wis., was robbed the other night, losing more than \$2,000 in cash, stamps and bonds. Government bonds worth \$1,720 are missing. The robbery seems to have been the work of professionals. The private deposit boxes within the vault were all broken open and the contents scattered.

## Big Wheat Deal in Australia.

The government statistician of New South Wales announces that reports received regarding the recent season's wheat yield indicate that this will be double that of last year.

## Dervish Force Routed.

Gec. Wigate, with an Egyptian force, attacked the force of Ahmed Kedi at Afriadi. Fedil's force, numbering 2,500, was routed and 400 dervishes were killed.

## Elkins to Found a College.

A college for girls that will rival Girard College in beneficence and scope is to be established in Philadelphia by William L. Elkins, the traction magnate.

## Hamlin Garland Is Married.

Hamlin Garland and Miss Sulime Taft were married at the home of the bride's father, D. C. Taft, in Hanover, Kan.

## Vice President Dead.

Vice-President Garrett A. Hobart died at Paterson, N. J.

## MARKET QUOTATIONS.

Chicago—Cattle, common to prime, \$3.00 to \$4.00; sheep, fair to choice, \$3.00 to \$4.00; wheat, No. 2 red, 66c to 68c; corn, No. 2, 32c to 34c; oats, No. 2, 23c to 24c; rye, No. 2, 54c to 56c; butter, choice creamery, 24c to 26c; eggs, fresh, 17c to 19c; potatoes, choice, 35c to 40c per bushel.  
Indianapolis—Cattle, shipping, \$3.00 to \$3.75; hogs, choice light, \$3.25 to \$4.25; sheep, common to prime, \$2.75 to \$4.25; wheat, No. 2 red, 65c to 67c; corn, No. 2 white, 32c to 33c; oats, No. 2 white, 23c to 24c.  
St. Louis—Cattle, \$3.25 to \$3.75; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.25; sheep, \$3.00 to \$4.50; wheat, No. 2, 71c to 72c; corn, No. 2 yellow, 31c to 32c; oats, No. 2, 23c to 25c; rye, No. 2, 52c to 54c.  
Cincinnati—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$3.50; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.25; sheep, \$2.50 to \$4.00; wheat, No. 2, 70c to 72c; corn, No. 2 mixed, 32c to 33c; oats, No. 2 mixed, 23c to 25c; rye, No. 2, 52c to 54c.  
Detroit—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$3.75; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.00; sheep, \$2.50 to \$4.00; wheat, No. 2, 69c to 70c; corn, No. 2 yellow, 34c to 35c; oats, No. 2 white, 27c to 28c; rye, 58c to 60c.  
Toledo—Wheat, No. 2 mixed, 68c to 70c; corn, No. 2 mixed, 33c to 34c; oats, No. 2 mixed, 23c to 24c; rye, No. 2, 55c to 56c; clover seed, \$4.65 to \$4.75.  
Milwaukee—Wheat, No. 2 northern, 65c to 67c; corn, No. 3, 32c to 34c; oats, No. 2 white, 23c to 27c; rye, No. 1, 55c to 57c; barley, No. 2, 44c to 46c; pork, mess, \$7.75 to \$8.25.  
Buffalo—Cattle, good shipping steers, \$5.00 to \$6.75; hogs, common to choice, \$3.25 to \$4.50; sheep, fair to choice, \$3.00 to \$4.25; lamb, common to extra, \$4.50 to \$5.25.  
New York—Cattle, \$3.25 to \$3.50; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.75; sheep, \$3.00 to \$4.50; wheat, No. 2 red, 73c to 75c; corn, No. 2, 41c to 43c; oats, No. 2 white, 31c to 32c; butter, creamery, 22c to 27c; eggs, western, 16c to 21c.

## SOME OF THE CAUSES FOR THANKSGIVING.



Value of a Home Demand. There was a certain farmer who in the days of Clevelandism voted for tariff reform. His fancy had been caught by the glowing pictures of marvelous prosperity which the free traders and the tariff reformers had painted to describe the glorious days when under free trade we would have possession of the markets of the world. Some little time after the triumph of the advocates of tariff reform in 1902, when the country, instead of enjoying the overflowing prosperity predicted, was suffering from the hard times brought on by the downfall of the protective system, this same farmer took a wagon load of garden truck to the nearest town for sale. The once thrifty town, which had formerly been such a good market, was a scene of idleness. The mills in the town were shut down, and many of the houses were vacant and nobody wanted the farmer's products. He was obliged to drive home again, taking his garden truck with him. As he jogged along in disgust, one of the townsmen shouted out to him: "What did you bring your stuff here for? Why didn't you haul your load to the nearest port, hire a boat and ship it across the ocean? You know you have been howling for a foreign market."

What the farmer said in reply is not on record, but it is not unlikely that the lesson struck home, and that he came to realize that it was money in his pocket and in that of every other farmer to have a market for farm products almost at their own doors, and that the prosperity of the wage earner in the towns means the sale of the farmer's products and the prosperity of the farmer himself.

Railway Prosperity. The railways of the country are doing an unparalleled business at the present time. Not only are people traveling in greater numbers than in ordinary times, but there is an equally heavy amount of freight traffic. So much freight is to be transported that the railroads are finding it difficult to provide enough cars to meet the demand for them. The situation is summed up by an Eastern railway official as follows: "With the enormous business in sight it will be a crime if, for the next six months at least, there is a single rate cut or an unemployed car east of Chicago. There is sufficient business to keep every road busy."

The great amount of business done by the railway companies is a sure indication of the great prosperity that prevails in all parts of the country. It reflects good times for all the people. The crops are large, causing unusually heavy shipments of grain and agricultural products, which means increased freight business for the railways, while the great amount of manufacturing and our large exports to foreign countries contribute to a great extent in giving the railways new business. Then the people are traveling more than usual, because they feel that the railways are an infallible test of the prosperity of a country. As they have never known a period when their receipts were greater, it may be assumed that the country is enjoying greater prosperity than ever before. Milwaukee Sentinel.

Leaders Are at Sea. In regard to the tariff and silver the Democratic party was wrong, and it knows it. It was wrong. The reason it doesn't admit the fact is because it is not honest. Kansas City Journal. This is a little harsh. One reason it does not admit its mistake, it is not in condition to admit anything. Its leaders are at sea—on a wide and stormy sea, and in a boat of stone, with oars of lead, the rudder lost, and no friendly port in sight. You might as well say a man who has been on a horrible drunk for a long period is not honest, because he has no mind to submit to the dictates of reason. The Democratic party may sober up after a time; but present indications are for a considerable period of capriciousness yet. Salem (Ore.) Statesman.

Sam Jones on Prosperity. Sam Jones, the picturesque exhorter, occasionally stops his talks on religion long enough to speak a little on worldly affairs. A few days ago he was preaching in a town in Georgia, and dipping into politics, got off the following: "The biggest fool in the world is the one who stands up and argues against facts. I was talking to one of those old free silver loons a few days ago and called his attention to the great prosperity which has come upon our country, mills and shops and mines running on full time, and I said truly prosperity has come to our land again. He said: 'It ain't struck me yet.' I said, 'It's mighty hard to hit nothing.'—Bozeman (Mont.) Avant-Curier.

Don't Destroy the Shield. The exploitation of the anti-trust feeling will not be permitted to work the destruction of protective duties which are the shield of the American workingman against, not merely cheaper European labor—now much less feared than of old—but against the practice of foreign manufacturers of unloading vast amounts of their products on the American market at prices far lower than they ask at home, simply with a view of smashing American competition. St. Paul Pioneer-Press.

## Still Coming.

The time when prosperity began in this country was stated by Senator Allison in a speech at Bloomfield, Iowa, Oct. 20. Mr. Allison said prosperity

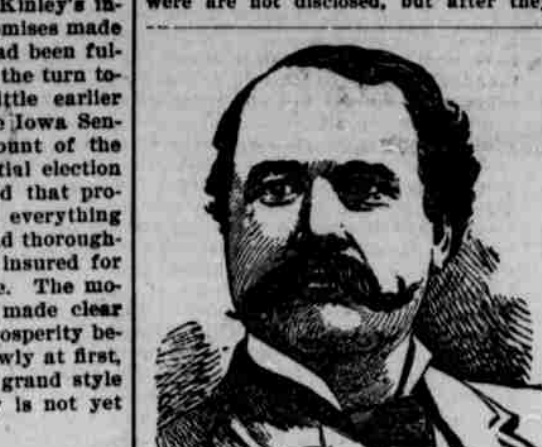
## ROBERT PASSES AWAY.

### VICE PRESIDENT SUCCEDES TO LINGERING ILLNESS.

Had Come with His Family Present at the Home in Paterson—Deep Sorrow Expressed at Washington for the Nation's Loss—His Career.

Garrett A. Hobart, Vice-President of the United States, died at his home in Paterson, N. J., shortly after 6 o'clock Tuesday morning. Dr. William K. Newton, who has remained at his bedside almost constantly since his condition became serious two weeks ago, ascribes the immediate cause of death to heart failure.

Mr. Hobart's condition began to change for the worse late Monday afternoon. He became suddenly weaker and his heretofore wonderful vitality seemed to be deserting him. Shortly before midnight he spoke to Mrs. Hobart, who was kneeling by his bedside. What his words were are not disclosed, but after they



GARRETT A. HOBART.

were spoken the Vice-President became unconscious. He remained in a comatose condition during the balance of the night. At his bedside when he passed away were Mrs. Hobart, Garrett A. Hobart, Jr., Dr. Newton and his wife and Miss Alice Wardell, the nurse. As soon as the Vice-President expired, a message announcing his death was sent to President McKinley at the White House. Another message was dispatched to Gov. Voorhees of New Jersey.

## CAREER OF GARRETT A. HOBART.

### From a Country School Teacher to Vice President.

Garrett Augustus Hobart was born at Long Branch, N. J., June 3, 1844. He received his education at Rutgers College and graduated when he was 20 years old. He began his career as a schoolmaster. Later on he took up the study of law and was admitted to the bar in 1870. In 1871 he became city counsel of Paterson, and in 1872 counsel of the freeholders of Passaic County. He represented the Third district of Passaic County in the State Assembly in 1872. Mr. Hobart soon became one of the leading Republicans of his section. He was married July 21, 1869 to Jennie Tuttle, daughter of ex-Mayor Socrates Tuttle of Paterson. He was re-elected to the Assembly in 1873, and at once took the highest rank and was chosen Speaker of that body. In 1876 Mr. Hobart was elected to the State Senate, and in 1881 was elected president of the Senate, and was re-elected the following year.

During his terms in the Senate he became a member of some of the most important committees. From 1880 to 1891 he was chairman of the State Republican committee of New Jersey, and under his leadership the party conducted some brilliant campaigns. He was nominated in 1884 for United States Senator, but the Legislature being Democratic, he was defeated by John R. MacPherson. He was a delegate at large to the Republican national convention in 1876 and again in 1880. He became a member of the national Republican committee in 1884, and served until 1896, when he was nominated for Vice-President and elected.

Since his election to the vice-presidency Mr. Hobart had played an important part in political affairs. Between the President and Mr. Hobart there have existed the most cordial relations, and the visits between the two have been of the most informal and neighborly character. Mr. Hobart was a first-class business man and was connected with numerous big concerns. Mr. Hobart was a very fascinating man with a pleasant face. He always had his pocketbook open in behalf of charity. When he located in Paterson his entire capital amounted to only \$1.50. He worked hard and his efforts were rewarded by a remarkable success.

Garrett A. Hobart was well beloved in Paterson. He is said to have been a good neighbor and an honest business man. During his illness the city seemed to neglect regular duties to hear the news from the bedside, and on all sides were heard prayers for the sick man. Mr. Hobart in health was a genial, courteous gentleman and was most approachable. After his election to the vice-presidency he remained the same to his old friends and associates.

Mrs. Hobart has been invaluable to Mrs. McKinley, relieving her of many of her trying social duties. Mr. Hobart has been equally valuable to McKinley. He was a man of great tact, and his diplomacy has been made use of by the President in several trying situations.

## Telegraphic Briefs.

Statue of Oliver Cromwell was unveiled in London by workmen.

James Meabon, 22, Titusville, Pa., dragged his gun over a log. He is dead.

Mrs. Harriet A. Fox, mother of Della Fox, the singer, is dead at her home in St. Louis.

Mrs. Jane H. Sennett, aged 65 years, and Mrs. Elizabeth Sarsfield, aged 75, were suffocated by escaping gas at Roxbury, Mass.

Ex-County Treasurer John C. Lemmerts of Lockport, N. Y., whose official accounts showed a heavy deficit, was convicted of grand larceny.

Thomas Wright was hanged at Stephans, Texas, for the murder of John Adams, whom he believed had caused him to be sent to the penitentiary.

William C. Whitney, New York, has sold the Fifth avenue stage line to the Electric Vehicle Company.

W. J. Latta has been elected president of the new telephone combine. He has only ten shares, at \$50 each. Capital stock is \$300,000.

In Boston the other day a man who had been arrested on a charge of non-support was fined \$20, and his neglected wife secured his release by paying that amount.

The heavy frosts in Alabama have practically killed the growth of top cotton. Reports from several counties show that the cotton fields have practically been abandoned.

## NINA VAN ZANDT.

### Woman Who Was Married by Proxy to August Spies, the Anarchist.

Nina Van Zandt, the woman who was married by proxy to August Spies, the anarchist, almost upon the eve of his execution, is now Mrs. Stephen Malato, wife of a prominent Italian politician of Chicago, and has been living quietly since her marriage, four years ago. She now dismises the escape of her proxy marriage to Spies by saying: "It was a foolish young girl then." She is the daughter of an ex-



NINA VAN ZANDT-MALATO.

pert chemist, who lived in a fine house on Huron street.

When the Haymarket riots occurred she was only 17 years old, and fell in love with Spies when she saw him at the preliminary hearing. She became a constant visitor to the courtroom, always elegantly dressed. She made no secret of her infatuation, sending flowers and meals from expensive restaurants to the jail. Her parents made no effort to break off the attachment. When Spies asked her to marry him she consented, but the sheriff interfered. It was then decided to use a proxy, and Miss Van Zandt was married to Chris Spies, acting for his brother. The girl continued her visits to the jail, and used every endeavor to save her proxy husband's life. For a long time after the anarchist's death Miss Van Zandt shut herself up in her home on Huron street, and denied herself to all callers. She had a marble bust of Spies made.

## A GOVERNMENT JOB.

### It Very Often Saps the Energy of Its Holder.

The narcotic effect of government employment is notorious, explains an Eastern newspaper writer, but, as in other cases, the victim of the sedative habit does not believe and cannot realize its power until it is too late.

There is a certain fascination to the old and hardened to watch the young struggle against their fate. The same sensations may be secured by observing the operations on a sheet of fly paper. The victim is "foot loose" and is looking around for a favorable opening. In the meantime it seems desirable to have some temporary lodgment—standing room, as it were—until the delayed opening appears. So the fly steps into the soft Government stickum. At first it does not seem so bad, and it is only when he feels his feet sinking that he decides to quit. But this he finds it not so easy. He pauses and begins to cast about for a little leverage or a way to wade out. In the operation he tangles up another member or two. By this time he suspects that the danger is serious and buzzes frantically. The result is the same, and while he is resting from the exertion he tangles up one wing. The other waves for a while, the emblem of a disappointed and hopeless ambition, now and then buzzing about the time to come when he will quit the Government fly paper and enter business or a profession. Then he rents a larger house and his wife takes a few friends to board. His body is submerged in the Government glue and he is in the Government service for life.

As Secretary of the Civil Service Commission Mr. Doyle has had opportunity to observe the number of Government employees who leave the service for other occupations and then return to it. "A few years ago," said Mr. Doyle, "my attention was called to a man by the excellence of the examination which he passed. He secured the place, but after a year or so he resigned. He had saved money and was going to Yale College. After four years I heard he had graduated and was studying law. Then I heard he had been admitted and had gone to New York to practice. And just the other day," he continued, "the man came in and made application to take the examination for his old place in the department."

## Gold in the Philippines.

It is said that there is not a stream rising in the mountains of Luzon—and the same is true of other islands of the Philippine group—which has not its gold-bearing sands. The alluvial deposits of the precious metal have been garnered for many years, but no thorough exploration for gold at its sources in the mountains has ever been made, because the Spaniards were unable to conquer the tribes inhabiting the interior regions. Some of these tribes are said to look upon the digging up of the earth as a sacrilege, and they will not seek gold in that way, nor permit others to do it, lest the wrath of the gods should grow hot against them.

## Underground City.

Epernay, in France, is a vast subterranean city, the streets for miles being hewn out of solid chalk, flanked with piles of champagne of all brands and qualities. The largest champagne manufacturers in Epernay possess underground cellars which cover no fewer than forty-five acres, and contain 5,000,000 bottles of wine.

## Fans.

It is no unusual thing for a vessel plying between Japan and London to carry 1,000,000 fans as a single item of its cargo.

## Wisconsin Christmas Trees.

As early as September orders were placed in Wisconsin for 50,000 Christmas trees, to be shipped East.

It is no disgrace to work for a living, but the living some men get for their work is disgraceful.

## THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

### THOUGHTS WORTHY OF CALM REFLECTION.

A Pleasant, Interesting, and Instructive Lesson, and Where It May Be Found—A Learned and Concise Review of the Same.

The lesson for Dec. 3 is taken from Nehemiah 13:15-22; its title is "Keeping the Sabbath." It should be preceded by some review of the history of the Hebrew Sabbath. Instituted early in the national life, this weekly holy day was often neglected. The two chief characteristics of the Sabbath according to Mosaic law were abstinence from all ordinary labor and an increased service of worship. The later Judaism overlaid it with a multitude of minute restrictions touching every possible act and state which might be regarded as contrary to the Sabbath law. But in the days of the kingdom not only were no such details observed by the great majority of the people, but the larger meaning of the day itself was neglected. This Jeremiah sternly rebuked the wholesale Sabbath breaking of his day. See Jer. 17:19-27. The prophet found traffic going on in Jerusalem on the Sabbath, porters carrying goods through the gates of the city for delivery. What this meant only a Jew could appreciate, for this was a bold defiance of a sacred law. Yet after a few years of neglect such a law might become as obsolete as did the commands against working in "thine place." The desecration of the Sabbath was one of the chief causes of the rapid disintegration of Judah at the last. Ezekiel 20:12-21 is the prophet's history of Sabbath breaking, running parallel with the decline of the nation down to the exile. Isaiah 56:1-8 gives warnings against this evil, also, at a late date. During the exile, along with other reforms and religious revivals, a better observance of the Sabbath may have been attempted. But the long interval that elapsed between the end of the exile and the beginning of the real life of the new nation under Nehemiah had brought the people practically back to the old careless state. The law that Ezra had promulgated had not sufficed to cure the disease.

Nehemiah had been away from Jerusalem for some years, and when he returned, by permission of Artaxerxes, he found that much of his former work had been undone. The very first thing he had to do was to reform the Sabbath. The heathen enemy of Judah, Tobiah, who happened to be related by marriage to the high priest Eliashib. The amazing fact that he, not only a layman but a pagan and foe of the nation, had established his residence in the sacred rooms of the temple shows how far from complete the reformation was at the stage.

The next task of Nehemiah was to enforce obedience to the law which provided for the support of the Levites, who ministered in the temple. The people had refused to pay the tithes or taxes for this purpose, and the Levites had been obliged to leave Jerusalem and take up farming in the fields, probably living the heathen enemy of Judah, Tobiah, who happened to be related by marriage to the high priest Eliashib. The amazing fact that he, not only a layman but a pagan and foe of the nation, had established his residence in the sacred rooms of the temple shows how far from complete the reformation was at the stage.

After the Sabbath reform, which came next, was the separation of pagan wives of Jews from their husbands (Neh. 12:23-31), a step whose severity is to be explained by the fact that the intermarriage which had become so common struck at the very root of Jewish national health, and heroic measures had to be used.

## Explanatory.

The Sabbath work named was both agricultural and commercial. There was no exception made for those farmers who did not live in a climate where a harvest was likely to come on any night in harvest season. It was simply the desire to get seven days' work in a week and seven days' profits that impelled the land owners to break the law.

"Men of Tyre" being foreigners and heathen, they were not permitted to disregard a Jewish holy day which the Jews themselves despised. The "men of Tyre" in our American cities—the foreign-born population who are out of touch with evangelical religion—are not in the least to blame, from one point of view, if they pay little respect to a Sunday which orthodox church members hold so lightly.

"Did not your fathers thus?" The appeal to history is one of the most telling in this Sabbath question, for it proves more than